

**Proposed Substitute
Bill No. 5611**

LCO No. 3359

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE HOLDING OF PUBLIC HEARINGS PRIOR
TO THE DETERMINATION OF POLLING PLACES BY MUNICIPAL
LEGISLATIVE BODIES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 9-169 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) The legislative body of any town, consolidated town and city or
4 consolidated town and borough may divide and, from time to time,
5 redivide such municipality into voting districts. The registrars of
6 voters of any municipality taking such action shall provide a suitable
7 polling place in each district but, if the registrars fail to agree as to the
8 location of any polling place or places, the legislative body shall
9 determine the location thereof in accordance with subsection (b) of this
10 section. Polling places to be used in an election shall be determined at
11 least thirty-one days before such election, and such polling places shall
12 not be changed within said period of thirty-one days except that, if the
13 municipal clerk and registrars of voters of a municipality unanimously
14 find that any such polling place within such municipality has been
15 rendered unusable within such period, they shall forthwith designate
16 another polling place to be used in place of the one so rendered
17 unusable and shall give adequate notice that such polling place has
18 been so changed. The registrars of voters shall keep separate lists of the

19 electors residing in each district and shall appoint for each district a
20 moderator in accordance with the provisions of section 9-229 and such
21 other election officials as are required by law, and shall designate one
22 of the moderators so appointed or any other elector of such town to be
23 the head moderator for the purpose of declaring the results of elections
24 in the whole municipality. The registrars may also designate a deputy
25 head moderator to assist the head moderator in the performance of his
26 duties, provided the deputy head moderator and the head moderator
27 shall not be enrolled in the same major party, as defined in subdivision
28 (5) of section 9-372. The selectmen, town clerk, registrars of voters and
29 all other officers of the municipality shall perform the duties required
30 of them by law with respect to elections in each voting district
31 established in accordance with this section. Voting district lines shall
32 not be drawn by a municipality so as to conflict with the lines of
33 congressional districts, senate districts or assembly districts as
34 established by law, except (1) as provided in section 9-169d and (2) that
35 as to municipal elections, any part of a split voting district containing
36 less than two hundred electors may be combined with another voting
37 district adjacent thereto from which all and the same officers are
38 elected at such municipal election. Any change in the boundaries of
39 voting districts made within ninety days prior to any election or
40 primary shall not apply with respect to such election or primary. The
41 provisions of this section shall prevail over any contrary provision of
42 any charter or special act.

43 (b) If the legislative body of any municipality is required to
44 determine the location of any polling place pursuant to subsection (a)
45 of this section, the legislative body shall conduct a public hearing in
46 such municipality on any proposed location of such polling place prior
47 to the final determination of such location. The legislative body shall
48 cause notice of the time, place and subject of such public hearing to be
49 published, not more than ten days and not less than three days prior to
50 such public hearing, in a newspaper having a circulation in the
51 municipality.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	9-169
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